

Bulletin

ACT State Emergency Service



DCOSES

4 June 2007

Air Observer Training

Members of the ACT and NSW SES participated in air observer training over the weekend to further strengthen the vital role that both agencies play in the provision of trained air observers to assist search and rescue authorities during searches for missing people, aircraft or vessels at sea.



The training was conducted at ESAs Air Support Operations Centre (ASOC) and involved members participating in theory and practical training. The practical training required members to undertake a one hour flight in which they attempted to locate the Operations Officer SES, Mr Graham Ible, on top of Oak Hill in Gungahlin who was using a range of distress signaling equipment including mirrors, flares and smoke.



The Training Officer SES, Mr Colin Malone said “the weekend’s activities provided the opportunity for members of the SES to acquire and hone their skills at air observing and witness a range of signaling equipment in real-time use”.

“We are very grateful to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority for funding the several hours of flights for the members of the ACT and NSW SES”, Mr Malone said.



The SES also acknowledges the support of the Carmody family who permitted the SES to access their property at Gungahlin for the practical activity.

Additional photos of the activity are attached and further information is available from the Operations Officer SES on 6207 9919.







ACT State Emergency Service
PO Box 104 Curtin ACT 2605
123 Carruthers St Curtin ACT 2605
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www.esa.act.gov.au

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